

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1240

To establish a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2005

Mr. HEFLEY (for himself and Mr. ALLEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Medical
5 Services Support Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EMER-**
7 **GENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Transpor-
9 tation and the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting
10 through the Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness

1 and Response of the Department of Homeland Security
2 and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services, shall establish a Federal Interagency
4 Committee on Emergency Medical Services (in this Act
5 referred to as the “Interagency Committee on EMS”) to
6 improve coordination and enhance support of emergency
7 medical services.

8 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Committee on
9 EMS shall consist of the following officials (or their des-
10 ignees):

11 (1) The Administrator of the National Highway
12 Traffic Safety Administration.

13 (2) The Director of the Office for Domestic
14 Preparedness of the Department of Homeland Secu-
15 rity.

16 (3) The Administrator of the Health Resources
17 and Services Administration of the Department of
18 Health and Human Services.

19 (4) The Director of the Centers for Disease
20 Control and Prevention of the Department of Health
21 and Human Services.

22 (5) The Administrator of the United States
23 Fire Administration of the Department of Homeland
24 Security.

1 (6) The Administrator of the Centers for Medi-
2 care Medicaid Services of the Department of Health
3 and Human Services.

4 (7) The Under Secretary of Defense for Per-
5 sonnel and Readiness.

6 (8) The Assistant Secretary for Public Health
7 Emergency Preparedness of the Department of
8 Health and Human Services.

9 (9) The Director of the Indian Health Service
10 of the Department of Health and Human Services.

11 (10) The Bureau Chief of the Wireless Tele-
12 communications Bureau of the Federal Communica-
13 tions Commission.

14 (11) A representative of any other Federal
15 agency identified by the Secretary of Transportation
16 or the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting
17 through the Under Secretary for Emergency Pre-
18 paredness and Response of the Department of
19 Homeland Security and in consultation with the Sec-
20 retary of Health and Human Services, as having a
21 significant role in relation to the purposes of the
22 Interagency Committee on EMS.

23 (c) LEADERSHIP.—The members of the Interagency
24 Committee on EMS shall annually select an individual

1 from among the members of the Committee to serve as
2 chairperson of the Committee.

3 (d) ACTIVITIES.—The Interagency Committee on
4 EMS shall carry out the following activities:

5 (1) Ensuring coordination among the Federal
6 agencies represented on the Committee with State,
7 local, tribal, and regional emergency medical services
8 and 9–1–1 systems.

9 (2) Identifying State, local, tribal, and regional
10 emergency medical services and 9–1–1 needs.

11 (3) Ensuring that emergency medical services
12 are appropriately integrated with homeland security
13 and other emergency response programs.

14 (4) Recommending new or expanded programs,
15 including grant programs, for—

16 (A) improving State, local, tribal, and re-
17 gional emergency medical services; and

18 (B) implementing improved interoperable
19 voice and data emergency medical services and
20 communications technologies, including wireless
21 9–1–1.

22 (5) Identifying ways to streamline the process
23 through which Federal agencies support State, local,
24 tribal, and regional emergency medical services.

1 (6) Assisting State, local, tribal, and regional
2 emergency medical services in setting priorities
3 based on identified needs.

4 (7) Advising, consulting, and making rec-
5 ommendations on matters relating to the implemen-
6 tation of the coordinated State emergency medical
7 services programs.

8 (e) MEETINGS.—The Interagency Committee on
9 EMS shall meet as frequently as is determined necessary
10 by the chairperson of the Committee, but no less fre-
11 quently than quarterly.

12 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator of the Na-
13 tional Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in coopera-
14 tion with the Director of the Office for Domestic Pre-
15 paredness of the Department of Homeland Security, shall
16 provide administrative support to the Interagency Com-
17 mittee on EMS, including scheduling meetings, setting
18 agendas, keeping minutes and records, and producing re-
19 ports.

20 (g) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Interagency Committee
21 on EMS shall prepare and submit an annual report to
22 Congress on the Committee’s activities, actions, and rec-
23 ommendations, and shall include in such report a descrip-
24 tion of respective Federal agency responsibility, support,
25 and coordination of emergency medical services systems.

1 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EMER-**
2 **GENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUN-**
3 **CIL.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Fed-
5 eral Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Serv-
6 ices Advisory Council (in this Act referred to as the “Advi-
7 sory Council”) that shall consist of not more than 13 indi-
8 viduals with an interest or expertise in emergency medical
9 services selected by the Interagency Committee on EMS.

10 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—In selecting members of the Ad-
11 visory Council, the Interagency Committee on EMS shall
12 ensure that the Advisory Council represents—

13 (1) both urban and rural areas; and

14 (2) all sectors of the emergency medical services
15 community.

16 (c) LEADERSHIP.—Members of the Advisory Council
17 shall annually select an individual from among the mem-
18 bers of the Council to serve as chairperson of the Advisory
19 Council.

20 (d) ACTIVITIES.—The Advisory Council shall make
21 recommendations to the Interagency Committee on EMS
22 on topics including the following:

23 (1) Improved coordination and support of emer-
24 gency medical services systems among Federal pro-
25 grams.

1 (2) Development of a national emergency med-
2 ical services plan.

3 (3) Standards, guidelines, benchmarks, and
4 data collection on emergency medical services.

5 (4) Guidelines for conducting needs assessments
6 for improving community-based emergency medical
7 services systems at State and local levels.

8 (5) Creation of new, or the expansion of exist-
9 ing, grants or other programs for improving commu-
10 nity-based emergency medical services.

11 (6) Consolidation or realignment of Federal
12 agency or program responsibility for emergency med-
13 ical services.

14 (7) Strengthening emergency medical services
15 systems through enhanced workforce development,
16 education, training, exercises, equipment, medical
17 oversight, and other areas.

18 (8) Issues or topics to be addressed in the an-
19 nual report of the Interagency Committee on EMS.

20 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Before the Interagency Com-
21 mittee on EMS submits to Congress the annual report re-
22 quired under section 2(g), the Advisory Council shall re-
23 view the report and include independent information or
24 recommendations for inclusion in the report, as deemed
25 appropriate by the Advisory Council.

1 (f) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Council—

2 (1) shall meet at the same time and place as
3 the Interagency Committee on EMS, when such
4 Committee meets; and

5 (2) may conduct independent meetings to re-
6 ceive public comment and collect data and informa-
7 tion.

8 (g) COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT.—

9 (1) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Ad-
10 visory Council shall receive no pay by reason of their
11 service as a member of the Advisory Council.

12 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the
13 Advisory Council shall be allowed travel expenses, in-
14 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates au-
15 thorized for employees of agencies under subchapter
16 1 of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while
17 away from their homes or regular places of business
18 in the performance of services for the Advisory
19 Council.

20 (h) ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator of the
21 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in co-
22 operation with the Director of the Office for Domestic
23 Preparedness of the Department of Homeland Security,

1 shall provide administration support to the Advisory
2 Council.

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